

# HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT I

Ewa 🗶 Kapolei 🗶 Leeward Coast

# **Get Out and VOTE**

# Primary Election — September 23, 2006

The Primary Election is a nomination process to choose candidates who will represent the political parties at the General Election. You, the voter, select the candidates of the political party of your choice. Your choice of party and candidates remains secret.

When voting in the primary, you are presented with a set of color-coded party ballots on a Ballot Card, but must vote on only one party or nonpartisan ballot. Selecting candidates from more than one party ballot or nonpartisan ballot will invalidate your vote.

General Election — November7, 2006

Candidates nominated in the Primary
Election compete in the General

Election. Federal and State offices are posted on one ballot by contest. Candidates are listed alphabetically and their partisan/non-partisan affiliation is noted. Candidates for county offices, Board of Educa-

tion and the position of trustee for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs appear on a separate ballot.

Since the General Election is a candidate contest, voters may vote for the candidate of their choice regardless of partisan and nonpartisan affiliation. Be careful to determine the number of candidates you are entitled to vote for in each contest.

(Continued on PG 3)

# On a Personal Note ... By Councilmember Apo

Real property taxes dominated the Council's work during its recent budget deliberations for fiscal year 2007. During this process, the Council worked hard to find a balance between maintaining City services and easing the tax burden experienced by many O'ahu homeowners. It was a daunting task and compromises needed to be made along the way. When all was said and done, the Council had approved several key modifications to the City's real property tax system.

#### Tax Rate Adjustments

Commercial and residential properties will both see an adjustment in tax rates

during the 2007 fiscal year. Residential rates have declined from \$3.75 to \$3.59 and non-residential or commercial properties have increased from \$11.37 to \$11.97. The Council took these actions because commercial class tax valuations have not increased at the same rapid pace as residential properties. As a result, residential properties now contribute proportionately more in tax revenues annually than commercial parcels, relative to "normal" allocation over the past at least seven years. By adjusting both class rates, this recently created gap is narrowed. I believe that tax rates must be examined and adjusted annually. From a policy

standpoint, we must determine what is an appropriate allocation of revenue needs between residential and non-residential properties and adjust rates to meet that policy. I believe that this would be an important step towards establishing a more equitable tax structure for the City and County of Honolulu.

#### Tax Discount

The Council also adopted a one-time tax discount for homeowners. Ordinance 06-30 authorizes a \$200 discount for residential properties with a home exemption. The discount, which will cost the City over \$20 million dollars to fund, will be applied to real



Todd K Apo
Councilmember

#### THE DISTRICT I STAFF

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### Out of the Office

Legislative Aide, Karen Awana is on leave of absence from Councilmember Apo's staff while she pursues her bid for election to State House seat #44 — Nanakuli.

Until further notice please direct all concerns and inquiries related to the Leeward Coast to Wendy Sefo (808) 547-7001 Wsefo@honolulu.gov

#### HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT /

West Loch / Ewa / Ewa Beach

### ROAD WORK THROUGH OUT EWA BEACH

Correspondence was received by the Council District I office from Ewa Beach resident Eileen Lynn on Wednesday, August 23, 2006.

Ms. Lynn shared her concerns regarding the inadequate repaving / patch work done by City crews which have created poor road conditions on Hanakahi, Kuhina, Pailani and Ikulani streets. She requested information on when repairs and resurfacing could be expected.

With her correspondence, Ms. Lynn provided photos of the streets that were of concern and her correspondence and photos were forwarded to the appropriate City departments.

Within 14 days, the responsible City department was able to provide the following response to Ms. Lynn's inquiry.

The areas of concern were checked and the following was found:

91-965 Kuhina Street - A dye

test was performed on the sink hole and the line. This is not sewer related. Our 15" VCP line is approximately 13.5' deep and there are no defects per our CCTV inspection. Repair request submitted for scheduling.

91-980 / 91-992 Ikulani Street These are Board of Water Supply projects contracted to Parsons. The contractor was responsible for the damaged sewer lateral pipes and has repaired it. Parson's stated they will repave the entire road when the project is completed.

Additionally, Parson's—at its own expense, removed over grown bushes located at the corner of Pailani and Ahona Streets that had created a traffic hazard by obstructing the view of drivers approaching the intersection.



Kalaeloa / Kapolei / Honokai Hale



The present Solid Waste Operating Permit and the State Special Use Permit will expire in 2008. The physical potential of the landfill site could be used past the 2008 timeframe if the required

### LANDFILL — PROPOSED PERMIT EXTENSION

permits are obtained from the regulatory agencies.

Operation of the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill is primarily regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency and the State Department of Health. The Solid Waste Operating Permit, the State Special Use Permit, and the project EIS, are the major regulatory documents that the City will

file to meet and ensure the safe operation of the facility.

The EIS process for utilizing the remaining space is scheduled to take about a year to complete and should be finished by mid-2007. During this process there will be several opportunities for the public to express their concerns regarding issues that should be addressed in the EIS.

The City has already held public scoping meetings for this purpose and plans to hold additional public meetings to inform and advise the community about the project.

For additional information and to review summaries of comments provided at the scoping meetings log onto www.opala.org or contact the City's Department of Environmental Services.

Nanakuli / Maili / Waianae

## ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS—INITIAL COUNT COMPLETED

On any given night, it is estimated that between 2,800 and 3,500 individuals are homeless in Hawaii. On average, service providers assist more than 13,000 individuals over a one-year period. Over the course of one year, this translates to thousands of individuals and families who experience homelessness throughout our island communities.

While finding island wide and statewide solutions remains the ultimate goal, understanding the magnitude of the Leeward

Coast homeless population is a key piece to solving the puzzle. For the third year in a row, the homeless population living on beaches along the Waianae Coast has increased, according to a report released by Waianae Community Outreach – an organization that provides intensive case management services, emergency food, clothing, household items and financial assistance as resources are available.

The most accurate estimate available to date shows that

there are between 725 and 850 people living at nearly 350 coastal campsites in tents, cars and tarp-covered dwellings. The hidden homeless -- those who live in cars or double up with other people living in units in violation of occupancy rules -- would increase the number of homeless on the Waianae Coast to nearly 1,200. By comparison, in May 2005 Market Trends Incorporated estimated there were



nearly 700 people living at Waianae coast beaches. It was a big task to undertake, but a necessary step towards helping to

reduce the number of homeless on the Waianae coast and finding island wide solutions. The count was a critical piece of information needed, as the City and State work to assist the homeless in Leeward Oahu.

#### **SUMMER 2006**



WEST SIDE Solutions
Thursdays
8:30P
'Olelo Channel 54

# LIVE AND LET LIVE — 2006 AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

The 2006 "Live and Let Live" Traffic Safety Awareness Campaign has already started. Preparations have begun for the planning of the 22nd annual community awareness campaign.

The Kapolei / Waianae Police District stretches from Kunia Road near Waipahu to Kaena Point at the far west end of Farrington Hwy.

Since January 1st, 2006 there have been 13 fatalities.

Speed has been identified as a factor in nine of those fatalities, and alcohol in one other. Island wide there has been 56 fatalities.

Annually, the "Live and Let Live" committee has organized this community effort, bringing an ever increasing awareness of the dangers of speeding, and drinking and driving on the Leeward Coast.

This year both the Ewa

Beach and Kapolei communities will be joining in the efforts to organize and educate their communities about the devastating effects of both underage drinking and drinking and driving fatalities.

If you are interested in participating in this year's campaign please contact our office at (808) 547-7001 or e-mail

Wsefo@honolulu.gov.

### DISTRICT I WEB PAGE — A VALUABLE RESOURCE

Councilmember Todd Apo has launched a new Council District I website. While still in its early stages of development, the website already contains useful information about city issues and Council District I projects. For example, CIP information, interesting area demographics, district images, staff information and an archive of monthly newsletters are all available on the site. In addition, site visitors can sign-up for a new electronic mailing list and receive monthly newsletters, district events and webpage updates via email.

Councilmember Apo is optimistic that "this website will even-

tually evolve into a valuable hub of information for the district and, at the same time, provide us with an effective tool for communicating with our constituency quickly." To view the new Council District I webpage, please visit the following link:

Council District | webpage:

http://www.honolulu.gov/council/d1/index.htm

To sign-up for the district mailing list:

Webpage mailing list address: http://www.honolulu.gov/honolulu\_list/

optin.asp?form id=52

#### GET OUT AND VOTE (CONTINUED FROM PG I)

If you are a registered Hawaii voter, you may cast an absentee ballot in person at an Absentee Polling Place established by your local Office of the City/County Clerk.

The absentee polling places will be open Monday through Saturday from **September II to September 21, 2006** for the Primary Election and Monday through Saturday from **October 24 to November 04, 2006** for the General Election.

#### **Absentee Voting**

To vote an absentee ballot by

mail you must submit an "Application for Absentee Voter Ballot" or written request to your local City or County Clerk.

Applications are available at public libraries, U. S. Post Offices, the Office of the City/County Clerk, and Satellite City Hall locations.

Absentee requests for the Primary Election will be accepted from July 25 through September 16, 2006 and from July 25 through October 31, 2006 for the General Election.

On Oahu, you may cast an absentee ballot at any of the following walk-in sites.



#### Location

Honolulu Hale

Kapolei Hale

Pearlridge Satellite City Hall

Windward Mall Ist Floor next to Sears

#### **Hours of Operation**

8:00 am - 4:00 pm, Monday through Saturday

8:00 am - 4:00 pm, Monday through Saturday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday 8:00 am - 3:30 pm, Saturday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm, Monday through Saturday

# DISTRICT I CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (CIP) - FISCAL YEAR 2007

On July 1, 2006, the City and County of Honolulu started the 2007 Fiscal year. Included within the City's Capital Improvement Program are over 40 projects planned for District 1. This includes 37 region-only projects totaling approximately \$91,308,606 and an additional 9 island-wide\* ventures with district impact. District 1 CIP projects include the following items:

Ewa Mahiko District Park Fire Station Building Improvements* Flood Control Improvements At Various locations* Golf Course Improvements* Guardrail Improvements* Habitat for Humanity Hawaii Coalition Of Christian Churches Hawaii Housing Development Corporation Honouliuli Wastewater Treatment		\$19,000 \$20,000,000 \$1,250,000 \$750,000 \$335,000 \$900,000 \$500,000 \$100,000	North-South Road/Park Row Roadway Ocean Pointe Park Paakea Road Acquisition Papipi Road Drainage Improvements Parents & Children Together Pohakupuna Road Improvements Police Stations & Building Improvements* Procurement Of Major Equipment* Puu Ohulu Community Park - Maili	\$33,121,000 \$100,000 \$1,000 \$100,000 \$116,606 \$500,000 \$1,650,000 \$17,313,500 \$75,000	
Plant Solids System Honouliuli Wastewater T	\$22,003	Refuse Convenience Center Improvements* Renton Road Sewer & Manhole	\$200,000		
Plant Upgrade	\$10,100,000		Rehabilitation	\$10,200,000	
Hui Kauhale Inc Intra-Island Ferry	\$2,100,000 \$600,000		Renton Road Street Lighting - Ewa Villages	\$160,000	
Kalaeloa Regional Park \$200,000 Kamokila Blvd. Extension \$1,000,000 Kapolei Consolidated Corporation Yard \$4,600,000 Kapolei Transit Center Relocation \$250,000			Sewer Manhole & Pipe Rehabilitation At Various Locations* \$7,511,000		
			Traffic Signal Optimization -Phase 3* \$450,000 Traffic Signals At Various Locations* \$2,272,000 US Veteran Initiative \$210,000 Waianae Coast Alternate Route \$1,003,000		
Kapuni Park Improvements		\$850,000	Waianae Police Station Replacement	\$75,000	
Leeward Area Sewer & Manhole Rehabilitation Leeward Coast Park Improvements Nanakuli BeachPark Improvements Nanakuli Hawaiian Homestead Nanakuli Hawaiian Homestead Community		\$100,000 \$1,000,000 \$150,000 \$150,000 Center \$500,000	West Loch Commercial Center & Elderly Housing West Lock Curbs Sidewalk Improvements Women In Need	\$250,000 \$225,000 \$50,000	

Additional information about the City Budget can be obtained by contacting Councilmember Apo's Office at 527-7001 or by logging on to http://www4.honolulu.gov/docushare/dsweb/HomePage.

#### REAL PROPERTY TAX (CONTINUED FROM PG I)

property taxes owed for the 2006-2007 year. For many, this discount will help to make their annual tax tab a little easier to manage.

#### **Deadline**

It is important to remember

that these new tax initiatives are just a few of the real property tax measures available to property owners. Last year, the Council also adopted Ordinance 05-26 which expanded the city's "circuit breaker" protection by increasing the qualifying income to \$50,000 and limit-

ing the tax liability to 4% of this income. The deadline to file for this tax credit as well as other exemption opportunities is September 30, 2006. I encourage those who qualify to submit your application before deadline.

For additional information

about this credit or other available exemptions, please contact the Real Property Assessment office at 527-5511 or to visit the Real Property Site at <a href="http://www.honolulu.gov/rpa/index.htm">http://www.honolulu.gov/rpa/index.htm</a>